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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

26 February 1953

TO ALL PERSONS SERVING WITH ME IN THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY:

Today I have assumed my duties as Director of Central Intelligence. I have known many of you from the days of our work together in the Office of Strategic Services. During the last two years I have been working closely with many more of you.

I desire to express my confidence in you and my appreciation of the devotion you are showing in your difficult tasks. I am proud of the staff that has been brought together in the Agency, both at home and abroad. We already have a sound basis for building an intelligence organization of which our Government can truly be proud.

Intelligence, above all professions, is a personalized one. It depends on the skill, the discretion, and the devotion of the individual. There is no easy formula or magic table of organization.

Thanks to those who have preceded me in this office, and particularly to my predecessor, General Walter Bedell Smith, we have won a respected position in government both in the Executive and Legislative branches. The reorganization period, except for minor changes, is over. Along the general lines already set, our job now is to concentrate on improving our techniques and building up a career personnel.

Great confidence has been shown in our Agency in that we have some unvouchered funds at our disposal. This facility is vital to our work, but it imposes on us a sacred trust and I propose to hold each and every person in the Agency personally responsible to see that this trust is faithfully and economically executed.

At various times in my career I have spent many years in the work of intelligence and in the related field of cold war operations. I take particular pride in my new assignment and propose to carry on in it for such time as our Government may wish. I shall give you all the support in my power. In turn I know that I can count upon yours.

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ALLEN W. DULLES  
Director

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